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Tuesday

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The

Gateway

The Student Newspaper of the University of Nebraska at Omaha

Fire Smokes out Fieldhouse, No Damages



The Omaha Fire Department and campus security investigate smoke coming out of a back storage room in the fieldhouse.

CM Chris Machian

CHRIS MACHIAN

Photo Editor

Smoke filled the Sapp Fieldhouse May 4 as a smoldering fire broke out near the press box construction area.

"A strong wood burning smell" was reported by Environmental Services employees at 11:25 p.m., according to a Campus Security report.

Security sent officers to investigate at

11:32 to find smoke in the arena level coming from a wall in a storage room on the east side of the building.

The fire had filled the field house with a thin haze of smoke. Although there was no visible flame, smoke could be seen pouring out of the wall.

Security called the Omaha Fire Department, which arrived on the scene to find the smoke had stopped. After investigating the scene they "suggested periodic

checks of the area," and left.

Campus Security then initiated a "fire watch" on the fieldhouse, with frequent checks for more smoke. The smoke returned around 2 a.m. May 5. Water which Campus Security put on the problem area seemed to put the fire out.

The situation was turned over to D.R. Anderson Company, which is building the new press box, later that morning.

The storage room was right below where

the new press box for the football field is being built. Security and the fire department speculated the fire was probably caused by welding going on earlier that day.

Sports Information Director Gary Anderson said the storage area contained old print outs. but was not damaged by the fire or the water.

Anderson could not remember any other incidents of fire in the fieldhouse.

ALAS Reaches out through School Visits

JOSIE LOZA

Staff Writer

The Association of Latin American Students has played an active role within its community through school visitations. Members set aside time to encourage the youth through one-on-one lectures of the struggles one overcomes to obtain a higher education.

The group has met with students all over the metro area, such as Castelar Elementary, Norris and Bryan Middle School. One of the four successful visits the group made was to Omaha South High.

The meeting began with introductions, experiences and life stories. Some of the members gave a brief illustration of their struggles and how they overcame them.

"It's really encouraging for all of us because the students see the different struggles all the speakers had to overcome in order to attend college, and many of them can relate to such experiences," ALAS member Linda Valedes said.

Many of the students could relate with trouble at home, gang involvement or fear of becoming independent. The group laughed and cried together as a sense of unity filled the room. Each personal example the members shared brought the group together.

"The mission is to get kids to think about the track that they are on

see ALAS, page 5

Student Senate Votes against Impeachment

JANET HARRIETT

News Editor

At the May 18 Student Senate meeting, a resolution demanding impeachment proceedings against College of Business Administration Senator Ryan Grillo was voted down and postponed indefinitely.

The Student Government constitution allows senators to be impeached for "the commission of a wrongful act or omission of official duties and responsibilities that significantly affects, interrupts or interferes with the performance of official duties" or "any significant misuse or violation of rights and privileges as contained in this constitution."

The resolution for impeachment, filed by Graduate Senator Christine Barnes, stated Grillo's actions while at the Conference on Student Government Associations last February met both those criteria.

Grillo was one of three senators chosen to go to the COSGA convention, held at Texas A&M University. Student President/Regent Will Marunda also went, but his trip was funded through different means.

One provision of the resolution which funded the senators' trip out of student fees was that all senators must "attend all assigned conference meetings."

While in Texas for the conference, Grillo met with Texas A&M's multicultural affairs director and participated in a conference call with UNO's Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Mary Mudd. Both events caused him to miss parts of the conference.

"I did miss out on a speaker and a roundtable discussion at COSGA," Grillo wrote in a March 9 letter to the Student Senate.

Barnes filed a grievance against Grillo, forcing the Senate Oversight Committee to look into his actions at the conference.

The results of the grievance hearing released in April by Speaker Scott Thomas, said, "The committee noted that, technically, no sessions were assigned to the COSGA delegates, so Sen. Grillo did not violate this clause."

The committee also reported that Marunda asked Grillo to apologize to the senate, and he felt that if that happened, nothing further should be asked of Grillo, such as reimbursing Student Government for the money used to send him to COSGA.

Barnes then filed the resolution demanding impeachment proceedings be brought against Grillo.

Barnes wrote in the resolution, "(The) Oversight Committee has failed to sufficiently act upon the con-

see Senate Impeachment, page 5

The Gateway

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NEWSPAPER
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Nebraska and Iowa Third in Nation in Draft Registration

JANET HARRIETT

News Editor

Turning 18 comes with a host of privileges: voting, smoking, property ownership, legal adulthood and for men, the possibility of being drafted.

Men in Nebraska and Iowa ranked third in the nation in registering for the Selective Service on time, according to a report released earlier this month by the Selective Service System, which operates the registry used for military drafts.

Ninety-one percent of Nebraskan and Iowan males register with the Selective Service System before age 20, according to the report.

Virtually all males living in the U.S. are required to register with the Selective Service within 30 days of their 18th birthdays, though the agency accepts late registrations up to age 25.

A "fair and equitable" draft requires the highest compliance rate possible, according to a press release from the Selective Service System.

New Hampshire led the nation with 95 percent of its men registering by age 20, and Hawaii ranked last with

only 74 percent.

Nationwide, nearly one out of every five men turning 20 this year will fail to register with the Selective Service, the report said.

Failure to register by age 26 can cost a man access to government jobs, job training and student loans for the rest of his life.

"Students can lose access to financial aid," said Randy Sell, director of financial aid at UNO. "It has happened at this school. It hasn't happened very often. Of the thousands and thousands of people in that boat, I can think of one, maybe two or three."

In addition, it is a rarely-prosecuted felony punishable by up to five years in prison and a fine up to \$250,000.

"Our research has consistently shown that the biggest barrier to young men's compliance is a simple lack of awareness," Selective Service Director Gil Coronado said in a press release.

"It is tragic to see young men potentially missing out on future opportunities because they just do not know that they are required to register." Barred from purchasing advertising, the Selective Service uses public service

announcements and in-school programs to increase awareness of the registration requirement.

A line on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid allows young men to register for the Selective Service while they apply for financial aid, if they have not already done so.

When a FAFSA is processed, a federal processor checks the Selective Service database to see that all men who are required to are registered.

A student who has failed to register with the Selective Service is notified by the federal processor. In addition, UNO's financial aid department is required to resolve the registration issue with the student before aid is granted, Sell said.

Sometimes it is something as simple as the man enlisted in the military right out of high school and the database shows that he never registered.

Cases where a man did not register by age 26 are reviewed on a case-by-case basis, Sell said.

"It is a professional judgment area," Sell said. In his time at UNO, he has seen both successful and unsuccessful appeals.

news briefs

Sierra Club In No Rush To Endorse Gore

CHICAGO (TMS) — An internal e-mail drafted by a doctoral student at the University of Michigan, who also serves on the Sierra Club's board of directors, urges other leaders of the powerful environmental group not to endorse Al Gore.

Board member Michael Dorsey cites the vice president's "tawdry environmental record" that has left natural resources "hostage to the highest bidder" as reason for the organization to back away from a candidate the group once held in high esteem.

"With this legacy, no real environmentalist could ever endorse Al Gore," wrote Dorsey, who's enrolled in UM's school of natural resources and environment and has served on the club's board since 1997. He declined to discuss the memo this week.

The Republican National Committee released the e-mail, which has been floating around since December, at a time when Democratic ranks are grumbling about Gore's strategy to win the presidency.

The vice president's campaign staff shrugged off the e-mail as old news Tuesday, when Gore was in Wisconsin to pick up the endorsement of another environmental group, the League of Conservation Voters.

"The fact is Al Gore has helped make this administration one of the most pro-environment in a generation," LCV

spokesman Doug Hattaway told the Associated Press. "He is far and away the best candidate to protect our air and water while we maintain economic growth."

Six months after the e-mail, the Sierra Club is airing \$250,000 worth of ads criticizing Gov. George W. Bush for his environmental record in Texas, but has not endorsed Gore.

The Sierra Club, with about 600,000 members, is one of the most influential environmental groups in the country.

N.M. Residents Flee In Face Of Approaching Wildfire

SANTA FE, N.M. (TMS) — A fire in New Mexico that surged through 6,500 acres in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and forced the evacuation of cabin owners, vacationers and students at a Bible camp burned toward the main watershed for Las Vegas. Wildfires on also scorched parts of Arizona, California, Colorado and Utah. Hot, dry weather left huge sections of the region vulnerable.

The fire in north-central New Mexico burned ponderosa pine and mixed conifers, sending columns of white-gray smoke spiraling thousands of feet into the air. The blaze was about 25 miles southeast of Santa Fe near the village of Pecos.

Mav Baseball Finishes .500

DAVID M. JOHNSON

Sports Editor

First-year Head Coach Bob Herold's Maverick baseball team finished the season 25-25-1 with an 8-6 loss to Morningside in the semifinals of the North Central Conference tournament.

UNO arrived in the semis thanks to some late-season heroics, a 7-4 run over the final 11 games. The team took a pair from North Dakota (3-2 and 15-3) on April 28 at Seymour Smith Field.

They followed that up the next day with another double-dip drubbing of the Fighting Sioux (10-4 and 9-2). The four-game sweep gave the Mavs a 10-6 mark in the NCC, ensuring a spot in the four-team tournament.

The Mavs opened the postseason against Minnesota State-Mankato. UNO pitcher Aaron Woodward held MSMU scoreless for six strong innings, but an error in the seventh gave the opposition three unearned runs. That was all MSMU's starter Chris Ruppert needed. He shut down the Mavs, allowing just two runs on eight hits. Final score: MSMU 5-2 UNO.

UNO was sent into an elimination game against North Dakota State. Jason Herzog blasted a three-run homer off the left field scoreboard in the ninth inning to give the Mavs a 7-6 squeaker.

It looked as if the Mavs would make it out of the elimination bracket. Josh Johnson's 3-5 effort at the plate gave UNO a 5-3 lead going into the seventh inning of the semifinal matchup against Morningside. Unfortunately, the bullpen could not hold the Mustangs, who put a four spot on the board in the top of the inning. UNO would add another run, but Morningside finished strong with an 8-6 victory.

Morningside moved into the finals against Minnesota State. MSMU took the championship game 13-2 giving them their fourth NCC title in five years.



Josh Johnson makes a diving catch in center field in the Mavs four game sweep to close out the home schedule. The four wins propelled the Mavs into the NCC tournament, where they finished third, with an overall record of 25-25-1.

Chris Machian

Summer Hot Spots

This Week's Hot Spot: That Pottery Place

LINDA SEDJRO

Staff Writer

Are you looking for a place to discover your hidden talent this summer? Nancy King, the owner of That Pottery Place has everything for you: the ceramic piece, the paint, supplies, studio time, glazing and firing.

"That Pottery Place is where people come to paint their own ceramic," King said.

King said That Pottery Place was created two and a half years ago.

"I saw one on a trip to Colorado, and I liked the idea," she said. "The name, 'That Pottery Place,' was chosen because often people tend to forget where they're going and if asked, they can just say, I'm going to That Pottery Place."

There are many pottery places throughout the country, but That Pottery Place is the only one in Omaha. King said 'That Pottery Place' is hers.

"I run it the way I want it and the others are run the way their owner wants it," King said. "All the That Pottery Places are run similar to mine, but the other owner charged the price differently and even higher."

At her store, everything is provided for the customers; the glaze color, the paint, stamps, the kiln, and most importantly, the bisque. The bisque is the ceramic piece, which is pre-made for the customer. Customers select their pieces from over 100 different items. There are all kinds of bisques to choose from, animal designs to vegetables and holiday pieces.

Next, they can select their own glaze color from over 50 shades. After that, the customers can choose their own design. That Pottery Place has all kinds of designs to choose from: book ideas, stamps, stencils and sponges.

After all this is decided, the next step is to create the customers then paint and decorate their pottery. The final step is to coat the piece with clear glaze and pass it through the hot kiln. This makes the piece food safe, dishwasher-ready, and microwavable.

The final piece can be kept, or given out as a gift.

Naomi Fox an eighth-grader at Westside Middle school in Omaha painted an ashtray in blue and purple, her dad's favorite colors, for a Father's Day gift.

"My dad sometimes smokes, so I choose this gift for him," Fox said. She said she likes coming to That Pottery Place because "it's a nice casual atmosphere and I like to paint."

Cara Keitges, another eighth-grade student from Westside chose to paint a picture frame in orange and purple for her Father's Day gift because "he has a lot of pictures of me," she said.

On the other hand, Rebecca Noddle, a third grader from Okdale Elementary school in Omaha chose to paint a green and yellow frog for her dad.

That Pottery Place is not only a place where people can come to work on pieces, but it is also a place to arrange a party for birthdays, troop events, holidays, showers, reunions, ladies night out, office parties, team building for companies, fund-raisers, charity events and craft groups.

"People come with family or a group of women and they can bring some lunches, spend the evening while painting," King also said.

She also said people of any age can come, "but only adults can bring their own wine and drink it just like in a party," she said.

That Pottery place also organizes events to teach children and adults how to paint. The adults classes are run through Metropolitan Community College during the Fall and Spring. "People are usually scared to paint, because they think they are not talented, but they come and paint nice pottery," King said.

For more information call That Pottery Place at 392-1166.

That Pottery Place's hours:

Monday-Closed
Tues.-Fri.-11 a.m. - 9 p.m.*
Sat.-11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sun.-12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
*Close at 8 p.m. if no one is painting.

UNO Track and Field Finishes Fifth

DAVID M. JOHNSON

Sports Editor

Spurred on by silver medals by Carly Lambert in the 100 meters, Rochelle Gordon in the triple jump and the 400-meter relay team, UNO roared back from a disappointing eighth place on the first day of the NCC Outdoor Track and Field Championships to finish fifth. The meet, held in Sioux City, Iowa on May 12-13, was dominated by North Dakota State. Their 216.5 points clearly outdistanced second-place South Dakota's 128.5. The Mavs finished with 76 points.

UNO had only 12 points after the first day's action. Those came from Jonisa McGlown's fifth place long jump, Rochelle Gordon's seventh place long jump and Meredith Bliss' 10th place hammer throw.

Other UNO notable performances included: Cathy Craig's bronze in the triple jump, Jonisa McGlown's fourth in the 100 meters, Niki Dorcas' fourth in the 1,500 meters and Suzanne Larsen's fourth in the high jump.

Lambert, Larsen, McGlown and Natalie Malone went on to represent UNO at the Division II Championships in Raleigh, N.C. While none of the athletes registered team points, all produced fine individual efforts.

UNO Hockey Announces Preseason Stampede

DAVID M. JOHNSON

Sports Editor

The UNO hockey team plays a 38-game schedule in 2000-2001, including a preseason tournament (the inaugural Maverick Stampede) which features national runner-up Boston College, NCAA tournament qualifier Niagara and Notre Dame. The exhibition tourney is set for Oct. 13-14 at the Civic Auditorium.

UNO squares off against Niagara on the first day, and battles either Boston College or Notre Dame on the second day. One week prior to the Maverick Stampede (Oct. 6), UNO hosts Manitoba in the Bisons' annual exhibition visit.

The regular season begins Oct. 20 at Michigan State and continues through the March 1 homestand against Findlay of Ohio. UNO will play a holiday tournament Dec. 29-30 at Alabama-Huntsville, and hosts powerhouses Michigan and Ohio State in February.



DN Dana Nelson

Shelly Pennington paints a piece of pottery in "That Pottery Place." At the store you can get paint, supplies, studio time and glazing and you can even fire your own pottery.



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Oregon Law May Lead to Increased Abortions



A law that allows adoptees access to their original birth certificates (and their birth parents' identities) was upheld by Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O' Connor last week. The law, voted in by Oregon voters two years ago, was challenged by six women who gave their children up for adoption and claimed it invaded their right to privacy.

I have to agree with them.

Years ago, such women made unselfish decisions to have their babies and give them up for adoption rather than abort them. They were assured their babies would be placed in good homes, and that their identities would be protected if they wanted them to. Most did not want the

child knocking on the door in 21 years looking for an explanation, a new mom or a friend. The mothers went on to new lives, as did the children.

Many of the birth mothers have spouses and other children who were never told about the baby given up for adoption. Now they have been put in a precarious situation with their marriages and families because the law voids the agreement they made before the adoption.

The law will affect more than past adoptions. I'm afraid it will have long-lasting negative effects on modern adoptions. A lot of women are saying if the privacy of their identities cannot be guaranteed, then they may choose abortion over adoption. It would be a shame for this law to be the deciding factor in aborting a child who could otherwise have gone to a loving, adoptive home.

The law also sets a somewhat scary precedent about the validity of adoption agreements. It nullified the agreement made to keep the parents' identities a secret. What if 10 years down the road another law is passed nullifying open adoption agreements made recently? Birth parents who still have the right to notification about their child's progress because of an agreement with the adoptive parents may find that agreement voided by a new law in the name of "the children."

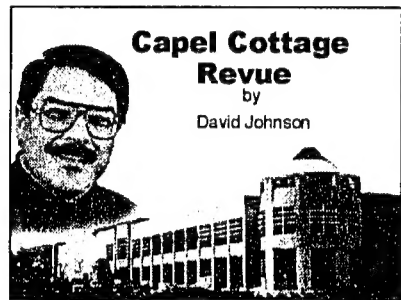
The law in Oregon does allow birth parents to classify whether or not they want to be contacted, but it doesn't force the children to abide by those wishes. If the parents classify themselves as not wanting to be contacted, they have to file a detailed family medical history.

I agree that adoptees should have access to their medical histories, but that could be done without compromising the anonymity of the birth parents. Those medical records are only a small part of what most the adoptees are looking for. What they are truly seeking is a connection with their birth parents.

That's where we run into problems. I sympathize with the adoptees wanting a heritage and family history to call their own. But I guarantee they are not going to get it from birth parents who don't want to be contacted.

I think most of those adoptees are looking for a bond with their birth parents they have been fantasizing about their entire lives. They're looking for a talk show-style reunion with the people who gave them up so long ago.

It will be the rare case that such a reunion takes place. I fear this law is only going to facilitate turmoil in the lives of all involved.



Cruisin' the News

A fire last month consumed a seven-story warehouse in Lawrenceburg, Ky., reducing it to rubble. So what, you say? Well, this warehouse was filled with Wild Turkey bourbon. The burning bourbon, sped on by gushing fire hoses, flowed down a nearby gully and into a branch of the river forcing the closure of the town's water treatment plant.

Locals saw this as a disaster. My only thought is: there's nothing better than bourbon and branch water.

A headline in the May 10 *New York Times* read: "Challenger Pulls Out of Runoff For Presidency."

I don't know how you feel, but I'm saddened by this. I think the Space Shuttle would make a heckuva better president than either Gore or Bush.

Denver has a pigeon problem. A terrible pigeon problem. The city has used high-frequency sirens, electric wires on ledges and an anti-perching product called the "Hot Foot," but to no avail. The birds are still there. So ... Denver officials have decided to spend \$250 a month for corn laced with the hallucinogen Avitrol to scare away the birds.

Coo-coo, daddio.

Headline from May 27, 2000, *Tulsa World*: "Clinton Wants More Nutritious Labeling For Meat, Poultry."

I sure hope so. All the labeling I've eaten has not done a thing for my overall health.

Senator Tim Hutchinson of Arkansas is sponsoring a bill to allow military recruiters on

high school campuses to recruit new, uh ... recruits beginning Oct. 1.

Ahhh, I remember my recruiter back in 1972. He told me, "Join the Air Force. Travel to far and exotic lands. Meet new and interesting people. And kill them."

Speaking of schools — the Agassiz Elementary School in Ottumwa, Iowa was dismissed for a day last month when an enormous swarm of gnats found its way into the air-conditioning vents and into the school. The bugs stuck around the school yard the following day and made things so bad recess had to be cancelled.

Sheesh. All we ever got were snow days.

Ernest Spence received a bill from the IRS for \$284.18. The stupid part is this was a fine for being one penny short on his income taxes. The spooky part is Spence lives in Roswell, N.M.

Let's see: .01 to the IRS, \$284.17 to the top secret Area 51 fund which doesn't exist. Really. Honest. Nothing there.

Headline from May 29, 2000 *Omaha World Herald*: "Use Phone Instead of Ipecac."

I've always found two fingers work best.

see CAPEL COTTAGE, page 5

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I read with interest the letter submitted by K. Meierhoff in the April 28, 2000 issue of the *Gateway* regarding pending federal legislation which would give a fetus the rights of a person. I suspect it would be no surprise to Meierhoff, nor to most thinking people, that any attempt to assure one's "rights" carries with it both positives and negatives. For example, if an unborn child's rights are a major positive step towards becoming a person, then any decision to interfere with that process becomes a major negative step against people's pro-choice "rights."

I am curious how we (society) can both protect/assure the "rights" of both the unborn and pro-choice. Certainly the dilemma (if it exists) is not unsolvable. To create and destroy seems so self-centered.

A widely circulated photo shows an operation

being performed on a 21-week-old unborn child diagnosed with spinal bifida, a condition of the spinal cord which, if uncorrected, often results in serious brain damage. Since the child was too immature to survive outside the womb, Dr. Joseph Bruner of Vanderbilt University performed a surgical procedure not yet endorsed in medical journals.

A Cesarean section allowed the uterus to be removed from the mother's body and the necessary corrective surgery performed. When the incision was made, a human being's fully developed hand grasped the finger of the surgeon. The child, Samuel Alexander Armas, was born at 36 weeks with no hydrocephalus fluid on the brain, the brain malfunction resolved, and with prognosis for normality. (See "Family News" from Dr. James Dobson, April 2000.)

So while the debate continues among religious

ethicists (e.g., "A Brief, Liberal, Catholic Defense of Abortion" Daniel A. Dombrowski and Robert Deltete), modern science, the legal profession, insurance companies, the media ... unborn children (who have no viable spokesperson for their "cause") are disregarded and destroyed by those saying they do not exist. If this is so, for what reason do pro-choice advocates persist in destroying that which doesn't exist? How does one explain how "nothing" becomes "something"?

If "nothings" could just hold mom and dad's fingers without being "sentenced," this could be a major step toward life. Sadly, or miraculously, it's a choice.

Sincerely,
R. Butler
UNO Professor, Emeritus

Gateway Editorial Letter Policy

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the University of Nebraska at Omaha or the University of Nebraska Board of Regents. Opinions in columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Gateway staff or the Publications Committee. Letters to the editor will be selected for publication on the basis of timeliness, clarity and available space.

The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for publication. Letters must be signed using the writer's first and last names. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number for verification purposes only. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

We Are The Champions!

DAVID M. JOHNSON
Sports Editor

Rookie Head Coach Jeanne Tostenson guided her UNO softball team to a 52-13 record and the NCC championship. Down the stretch, Tostenson rode some hot hitting and the right arm of freshman Krista Unger.

Unger breezed through the opposition in the NCC tournament which began May 5 in Omaha. She shut out Minnesota State-Mankato 7-0 on four hits, then followed up with a 7-3, four-hit win over North Dakota State; a 6-0, three-hit trouncing of St. Cloud State, and a brilliant 9-2, six-hit performance over a North Dakota State team which had just posted its 60th victory of the season.

The win over NDSU gave the Mavs their first NCC championship in three years, and sent them sailing into the NCAA Division II Regional tournament.

Despite striking out three St. Cloud State batters and giving up only six hits, Unger and the Mavs fell in Game 1 by a 1-0 count.

It was more of the same in Game 2. UNO's Jenne Averill launched a two-run rocket in the sixth inning against Augustana, but a wild pitch by Unger in the bottom of the eighth inning gave the Vikings the winning run. The Mavs' season ended with a 3-2 loss.



UNO's Kelleigh Warren slides home just ahead of the throw to UND's Alena Valdez. UNO went on to win the NCC conference tournament and finished 4th in the NCAA DII Regionals with an overall record of 52-14. **CM** Chris Machian

ALAS

from page 1

and change their direction. We would like to see them all in college, but if we can just help to see one, then we did our job," President Sasha Chavez said.

One of the most important points the group wanted to get across, was letting the students know they will have someone to turn to, stressing the fact that the organization of ALAS is to support, encourage, recruit and retain their members. The group also encouraged the students to become active within their community and school by working together to represent a positive image of Latinos.

Students attentively listened and jotted notes, while the group explained the steps to enroll in college and gave scholarship tips. ALAS explained the application process, and gave a list of contacts to reach for any questions they might have in the future. The members also invited the students to call upon them if they had any questions.

Students and school counselors were appreciative of the information.

ALAS would like to take a further step with the program by having students visit UNO's campus.

"The school visits are important, and it's exciting for many to see what's actually on campus, lifestyle and improvements, but we know that sometimes they probably won't visit on their own, but if someone took them they would," Chavez said.

Other highlighted events the group has hosted were the first annual banquet for ALAS, in which the group had a celebration of accomplishments: the birth of the first Latino fraternity, and a sorority interest group of Lambda Theta Nu. Lastly, the group co-sponsored a Latino/Parents' Night with Multicultural Affairs.

"In the past community involvement was slow, but this last year we have improved," Chavez said.

ALAS members are proud to share their experiences with the students, and plan to continue visiting schools. The group also works with other community-based organizations such as Greater Omaha Mexican American Club, and Clegeant Leadership Development Program. Another important organization ALAS branches out to is Creighton University Latin Student Association. ALAS hopes to work with UNL's Mexican American Student Association in the future.

"I'm proud to be associated with such a variety of people because the group started out with a bunch of students not knowing each other, and evolved to a group working together in unity," Chavez said.

Letters To The Editor

editor@gateway.unomaha.edu

SENATE IMPEACHMENT

from page 1

cerns of students in a petition that was brought before them."

In a press release, Grillo said he looks forward to getting back to work for students and evaluating what changes can be made on the campus, especially in student services.

Grillo did not speak in his defense during the debate. He laughed once the debate was over and the resolution was voted down.

"The consensus was that (impeachment) was too harsh a punishment but that something should be done," Barnes said. She added that Student Court will still hear the initial grievance she filed.

Other news from the May 18 meeting of the Student Senate includes the following appointments:

Junior Shelley Albea was elected to the position of Speaker of the Senate, replacing Scott Thomas, who graduated.

Erin Dahl was appointed Arts and Sciences Senator. Mark Crawford was appointed Business College Senator.

CAPEL COTTAGE

from page 4

I don't think I can get a phone down my throat.

- Omaha police arrested a naked man May 22 who they found sleeping in the Gene Leahy Mall. The man was drunk and stated he could not remember how his clothes came off.

Hmmmm ... that's the same line I use on dates.

- And finally, South Korea has announced it will be sending \$58 million worth of chemical fertilizer to North Korea prior to the start of the June 12 unification talks in Pyongyang.

I guess turnaround is fair play. After all, North Korea has been sending tons of BS fertilizer to South Korea over the past 50 years.

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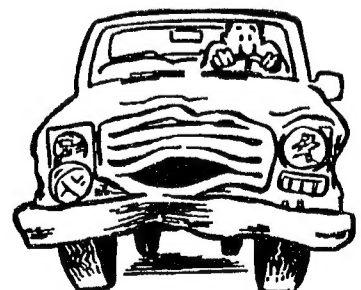
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Nine Inch Nails Brings "Fragility" Tour to Civic

RYAN NORRIS

Staff Writer

The alternative industrial metal band "Nine Inch Nails" rocked the Civic Auditorium when it brought the "Fragility v.20" tour to Omaha on May 30.

A near-full house witnessed the opening band A Perfect Circle, headed by Maynard James Keenan of Tool fame, perform its set in front of its crescent moon logo.

The crowd was treated to lighting effects and the vocal harmonics of Keenan and the guitar licks of former Tool guitar tech Billy Howerdel. A

Perfect Circle ended its 40-minute set with the current hit "Judith" from their new CD "Mer De Noms."

The crowd of mostly 20-somethings clad in black and smoking a variety of cigarette brands surged toward the stage in anticipation of the headlining band.

Nine Inch Nails made tour stops in Omaha in 1994 and 1995. As opposed to its 1994 appearance, when the performance included projected images of chaos and destruction, last week's show included images of earth, water and fire as well as a man and woman in an intimate moment. All this was projected on three different large

screens.

Perhaps the band has matured along with its audience over the years and the urge for shock value has been replaced by the urge to present a more fragile and tasteful hunger for music and spectacle.

Trent Reznor, lead singer and mastermind behind the techno metal sound of the band, sang and performed his musical hits from a variety of their past albums and their current release "The Fragile." After the regular set list, the band took a short break, then came back onstage and performed an encore much to the delight of the crowd.

CD REVIEWS

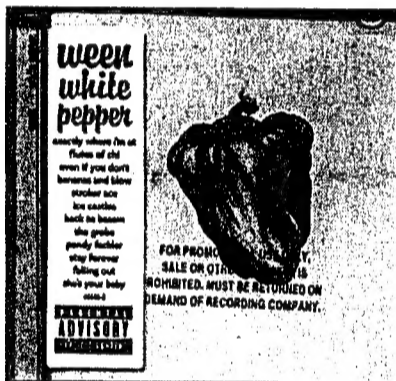
Brougham "Le Cock Sportif" (Warner Brothers)

"Le Cock Sportif" is definitely the worst album this year so far. The five-piece band that makes up Brougham tries to mix the whole rock and roll and rap together. The problem is that they can't rap and there is no good rock on the album. Brougham is following a style that is already played out. The lyrics are simple and sounds as if they came from a Dr. Seuss book. The subject of all the songs degrade women and talk of times getting high. There is nothing on "Le Cock Sportif" that beckons for human ear to tune in and pay attention. **Grade: F**



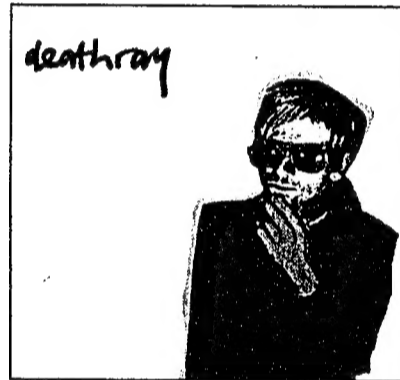
Ween "White Pepper" (Elektra)

It was once believed that only Weird Al could write funny songs and still get away with it. Ween has been writing funny songs and still maintaining musical integrity by providing some of the most unique sounds in music today. Ween is primarily the brothers Gene and Dean Ween. While its use of up tempo sounds has turned into mellow and slowed down rock, the unique use of vocals and guitar is still present. Songs such as "Bananas and Blow" and "Stroker Ace" show that the band has not lost its sense of humor. "White Pepper" sounds a little Beatle-esque mixed with the Melvins. While funny, the pace is still driving and the songs are unique enough to keep you listening. **Grade B+**



Deathray "Deathray" (Capricorn)

Deathray is made up of old members from the band Cake. While Cake focuses on melody and lackluster harmony, Deathray follows the pattern of a straight-ahead pop band. This is where it gets bad; there is nothing on "Deathray" that sets it apart from anything else out today. The vocals are actually kind of whiny and the male lead singer at times sounds like a little girl. At times Deathray could sound like Duran Duran, but instead backs off and keeps from turning it up a notch and sounding explosive. **Grade D+**



HOROSCOPES

by Madame Zora

GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUNE 21)

You are beautiful and you know it. Walk with your head up high and say out loud "I am a goddess." NOTE: This even works better if you are a female.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 22)

The heat wave will pass over the city this week. It will suffocate you, making you faint. Hallucinations of Mini-Me serving you strawberry-kiwi daquiris will appear.

LEO (JULY 23 - AUG. 22)

This week you are going berry-picking. Get yourself a nice big straw basket and practice skipping.

VIRGO (AUG. 23 - SEPT. 22)

Seeing so many shampoo commercials has gotten you confused. Don't get your hair in knot, just pick a shampoo that begins with the first letter of your name - you can't lose.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23 - OCT. 23)

You've been dreaming of a car lately. Ice blue exterior with white leather seats, CD player, interior wood finish.....wake up and get a job!

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 21)

I have very bad news for you this week.



Please do not get too frightened, it is painless and passes rather fast.....oh! Was that me? I'm sorry! I had Taco Bell for lunch. Dear me, how embarrassing.....did you print that? Oh - now I'm done for.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22 - DEC. 21)

Talking in a British accent has always been your fancy. It allows you to sound more intellectual and superior. Perhaps you should try it

out for a while. If you like it, stick with it. Cheerio!

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22 - JAN. 19)

Absolutely nothing exciting will happen to you this week, so go jump into the river fully clothed to spite destiny.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20 - FEB. 18)

You've spotted a UFO yesterday. It was not a plane and you are positive. They are coming to get you my friend.

PISCES (FEB. 19 - MARCH 20)

Really? Really? REALLY? That commercial REALLY is annoying.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APR. 19)

Summer is the most depressing season for you. The ugly sun and noisy laughter, the stench of Bar-B-Q's, and the sickly happiness that fills the air. Bah humbug....or something like that.

TAURUS (APR. 20 - MAY 20)

This week you will hear the new Dr. Dre song for the fiftieth flipping time. Forgot about Dre? Yes PLEASE!

Video Reviews

By Rae Licari

"Sleepy Hollow"

Once again, Tim Burton has created a gothic masterpiece. This film, a retelling of the classic "Legend of Sleepy Hollow," has equal parts horror, romance, mystery and humor, making for quite an entertaining combination. Johnny Depp is Ichabod Crane, a skitterish New York constable on assignment to track down the murderer in a series of suspicious deaths by beheading. Christina Ricci is the beautiful Katrina Van Tassel, daughter of a prominent townsman and Crane's love interest. Together, they track down the Headless Horseman (Christopher Walken, who does frightfully well for being headless) throughout various locations in the town, in the woods, and even an old windmill spectacularly set ablaze. "Sleepy Hollow" is an all-around beautiful piece of work. **Grade: A**



COURTESY PHOTO

Top right: Marc Pickering, Johnny Depp and Christina Ricci in "Sleepy Hollow." Right: Edward Norton and Brad Pitt engage in some unusual larcenous activity in "Fight Club." Below: Jim Carrey stars as Andy Kaufman in "Man on the Moon." Above: Brad Pitt stars as Tyler Durden, a soap salesman, in "Fight Club."



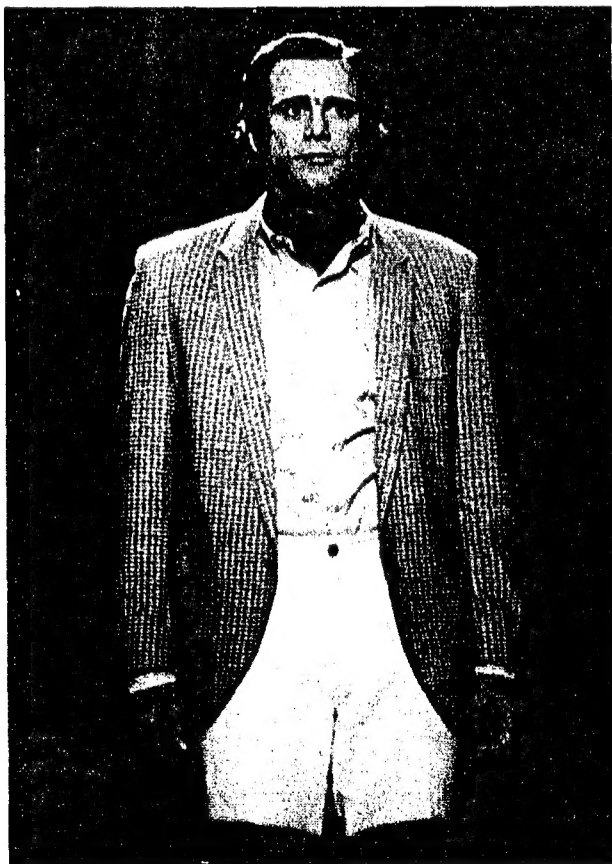
COURTESY PHOTO

"Fight Club"

David Fincher's film about male aggression and self-destruction is actually a lot better than you might think. Edward Norton is the curiously unnamed narrator, an average upper-middle class working guy with insomnia, an addiction to support groups, a fetish for furniture and an intriguing love/hate relationship with a girl named Marla (Helena Bonham Carter). Average, that is, until he meets up with Tyler Durden (Brad Pitt), an average soap salesman/sociopath with an uncanny knowledge of homemade explosives. Together they start Fight Club, a weekly meeting for guys to beat the living daylights out of each other and get rid of all their pent-up frustrations at their own perceived insignificance. What follows is a downward spiral into madness and self-discovery that concludes with a surprisingly twisted ending. **Grade: B**



COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

"Man On The Moon"

Jim Carrey is Andy Kaufman in Milos Forman's somewhat haphazard attempt at a biographical film. Now, I really don't know much about Andy Kaufman's career, but this movie seems to be missing many things, including a stable plot line. What we get is a glimpse into some of the events of Kaufman's life: Andy gets rejected a lot, Andy gets an agent (Danny DeVito), Andy does Mighty Mouse on Saturday Night Live, Andy does "Taxi" even though he hates it, Andy wrestles women, Andy gets cancer, Andy dies—or does he? In all honesty, Carrey does a pretty good job of mimicking Kaufman, but that's about all this movie seems to be about, hosting Carrey's Kaufman impersonations. Still, if you're looking for a laugh, this movie will most likely make you laugh. **Grade: C+**

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Heavy Backpacks In Academia Cause Medical Experts Some Concern

COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Laura Messoro, a petite eighth-grader, slumps forward as she slings her backpack on and loads an extra 24 pounds onto her back.

That's more than a quarter of her body weight, and almost three times what she should be carrying, according to the American Chiropractic Association, the American Physical Therapy Association and the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons.

They recommend that backpacks weigh no more than 10 percent of the child's body weight. For Laura, who weighs 90, that would be 9 pounds.

Today is actually a good day, says Laura, a student at Barrington Middle School: "I'm not even carrying all of my books."

One more book, and she would even exceed the limit for a 250-pound adult. "No one should carry more than 25 pounds," the three organizations warn.

"Back pain is pervasive in our society," says Dr. James A. Mertz, president of the chiropractic association. "Much of the suffering is brought on by bad habits initiated during our younger years — such as carrying overweight backpacks to school."

A 1997 study by the London-based National Back Pain Association found that 80 percent of children were wearing backpacks improperly and some were hauling as much as 60 percent of their body weight.

For many Rhode Island students, heavy backpacks are normal. They get homework — they take home the books.

Laura's schoolmate Rebecca Flanagan says she's pretty much used to it. Rebecca's backpack, with three textbooks and four notebooks, weighed in at 20 pounds one day recently. That's almost 20 percent of her weight, and twice what she should be carrying.

But some students, like Albe Focarelli,

are complaining.

"After awhile it gets really heavy," says the 98-pound eighth-grader, tilting to one side, an extra 23 pounds hanging from one shoulder. He notes that he's missing a Spanish book that weighs at least four pounds.

Barrington Middle School nurse Mary Jane Dow says she sees excessively heavy backpacks whenever students walk into her office.

"Most kids don't think about it or complain, it's just what they have to do — get those books from school to home and back," she says.

That's what Rudy Borqueta's son, a fifth-grader, does every day.

"He humps a backpack heavier than anything I ever carried in 'Nam," says Borqueta, superintendent of Newport schools, who thinks bulging backpacks are partly the children's choice — the "in" thing. Borqueta says he and his wife are always "weeding" their son's backpack, trying to convince him to carry less.

Is it the amount of books that students are carrying? Are they getting more homework than the adults remember ever getting? Educators around the state differ in opinion about what's causing the bigger backpacks, but they all agree that they are too heavy.

"They're using the kind of backpacks that people use for staying in the woods for two or three days," says Vincent J. Giuliano, principal of the Gaudet Middle School in Middletown. "Textbooks are bigger, and kids are taking more things home. I see them walking out of school and they're all bent over from the weight."

Charlho Superintendent John Pini says "a lot of the things students carry in their backpacks are not school-related, like lunch, mittens and athletic equipment."

To take some of the weight off his students' shoulders, Michael W. Jolin, former superintendent of West Warwick schools, offered to provide carts to haul books around school. No one took him up on the offer.

"Different students make decisions based on their particular needs," says Jolin, now

superintendent in Johnston. "I know, for example, my son is a high school junior in Woonsocket and I couldn't carry his book bag all day, but he chooses to do that. Many of them think that by having all of your books in one bag it keeps you from forgetting one in your locker."

Richard K. Wheeler Jr., Barrington Middle School principal, has another explanation for why many students choose not to use their lockers: "It's social time."

"They don't want to walk to their lockers when they can walk to their next class chatting with a friend," he says.

Although his school encourages all of its 760 students to store books in lockers, carrying only what they need for the following class, only sixth-graders are required to do so.

At some schools, like Gaudet and Portsmouth Middle School, all students are required to leave their backpacks in the lockers for security and space reasons.

"Backpacks tend to interfere," said Giuliano. "They're big and bulky ... There's also a health and safety issue. People get whacked with these in the corridor when students are slinging them on."

One health issue that experts say should be clarified: there is no research to suggest that carrying a heavy backpack will cause scoliosis, the curving of the spine.

But, doctors caution, there's no telling what could happen 20 years down the road.

"We're not seeing an increased prevalence of spinal deformities, but I have seen a few kids with strained muscles in the neck and back from picking up heavy backpacks at arm's length," says Dr. Charles d'Amato, a pediatric spine surgeon and assistant professor at the Brown University School of Medicine.

"They're not putting them on correctly. They usually just sling the bag onto one arm and walk to the next class," he says. "It's like carrying a scuba tank on one arm — it's unacceptable."

D'Amato encourages his young patients to use lockers and coat racks, and to store athletic equipment and other "extras" during the school day.

On occasion, he has written to schools on behalf of his patients, asking that they give the student an extra set of books to keep at home.

"The weight has got to be controlled to a reasonable level," d'Amato says.

A few years ago, Wheeler was worried enough that he began weighing students and their backpacks. "If you see the size of some of the students, then see their bags, some of them looked like they weighed 40 pounds. It definitely raised some concern," he says.

The heaviest he found was 27 pounds — far too much.

To get the point across to his students that heavy backpacks can be bad for their backs, Wheeler used his best weapon: parents. He held workshops, parent-teacher group meetings and sent home notices making parents aware of the issue.

One mother approached luggage maker American Tourister in Warren to see if there were any backpacks that would be better for children's backs.

What she discovered changed the look of Barrington Middle School's hallways.

Now the school resembles an airport at times, as about 50 students pull their backpacks around rather than lug them on their backs. According to parents, students and educators, backpacks on wheels are starting to roll into more school hallways.

Maybe they haven't caught on fast, but neither did backpacks.

"I remember when I was in school, all the girls carried their books in front of them, sometimes books up to their chins, and boys, no matter how many books, would carry them under their arms," says Wheeler. "After a few years students started carrying backpacks and it was like, 'Ooh, look at the nerds.'"

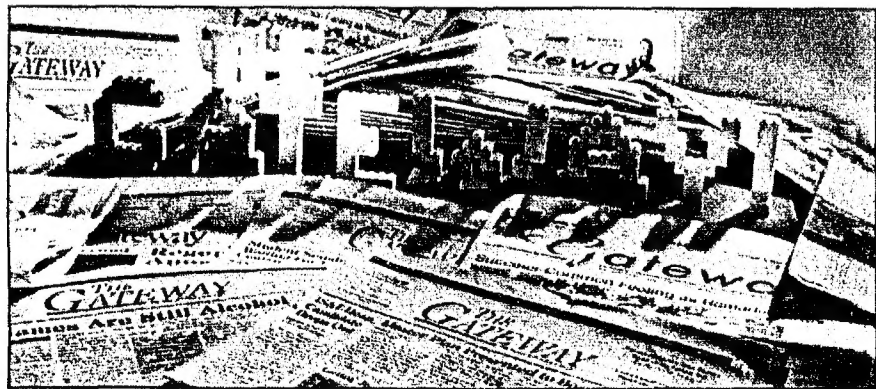
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